

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07

HEW-04 SIL-01 LAB-04 /104 W
----- 089238

R 202030Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9492

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT OF SPAIN 1884

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG, EIND, TD

SUBJECT: FIRE AT AMOCO'S TRINIDAD PLANT

1. AN EXPLOSION AND RESULTING FIRE AT AMOCO'S POINT GALEOTA GAS SEPARATOR PLANT ON THE AFTERNOON OF JULY 18 HAS PUT BOTH GAS AND OIL PLANTS OUT OF OPERATION FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD. THE PLANT IS A MAJOR GAS SUPPLIER TO THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO ELECTRICITY COMMISSION, AND THE LATTER MUST NOW BURN THE MORE EXPENSIVE BUNKER FUEL OIL TO MAINTAIN ELECTRICAL SERVICES. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL LOSE \$1 MILLION A DAY IN REVENUES. AMOCO'S LOSS NOT YET ESTIMATED. THE INSTALLATION WAS PRODUCING SOME 65 MILLION CUBIC FEET OF GAS AND 127,000 BARRELS OF OIL PER DAY.

2. THRITTEEN EMPLOYEES WERE INJURED, BUT NO DEATHS WERE REPORTED. THE AMOCO TRINIDAD MANAGING DIRECTOR CARR REPORTS THAT WHILE THE CAUSE OF THE EXPLOSION IS UNKNOWN, THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF FOUL PLAY WHATSOEVER.

3. COMMENT. CARR COMMENTED TO THE EMBASSY THAT GOVERNMENT
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OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN VERY COOPERATIVE. MINISTER OF

PETROLEUM AND MINES ERROL MAHABIR VISITED POINT GALEOTA
THE MORNING AFTER THE FIRE, AND PROMISED THE GOVERNMENT'S
FULL ASSISTANCE IN GETTING THE PLANT OPERATING AGAIN.
PRESS COVERAGE SO FAR HAS BEEN FAIR AND FACTUAL.
FAY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM REFINING, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, FIRES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760280-1032
From: PORT OF SPAIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760740/aaaabjhh.tel
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUL 2004
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Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIRE AT AMOCO'S TRINIDAD PLANT
TAGS: ENRG, EIND, TD, AMOCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
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